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Amendments to the Specification

Please add the following new paragraphs after the paragraph ending at page 4, line 11:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a graph showing a solid state ^{13}C NMR spectrum of hyaluronic acid.

FIG. 2 is a graph showing a solid state ^{13}C NMR spectrum of a singly cross linked film of hyaluronic acid that was cut into fine mesh for NMR analysis.

FIG. 3 is a graph showing a solid state ^{13}C NMR spectrum of a double cross linked hyaluronic acid gel that was milled to a fine powder for NMR analysis.

FIG. 4 is a graph showing a solid state ^{13}C NMR spectrum of the double cross linked hyaluronic acid powder shown in FIG. 3 in combination with an internal standard, tetrakis(trimethyl)silane, which has a chemical shift of 3.2 ppm.